

Message Text

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14

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00

SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 L-03 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 ISO-00 DOTE-00 /081 W

----- 080520

R 131800Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6038

INFO COMICEDEFOR

CINCLANT

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USNATO 1342

UNCLAS REYKJAVIK 0213

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, IC

SUBJECT: GENERAL STRIKE STILL LOOMS; SEAMEN'S WALKOUT SET
FOR TONIGHT

REF: REYKJAVIK 0158 (DTG 031725Z FEB 76)

1. GENERAL STRIKE BY AFFILIATES OF ICELANDIC FEDERATION OF
LABOR IS STILL SET FOR MIDNIGHT FEBRUARY 16 BARRING LAST-MINUTE
SETTLEMENT OR POSTPONEMENT. UNION NEGOTIATORS AND EMPLOYERS,
TOGETHER WITH STATE MEDIATOR, HAVE BEEN MEETING IN MARATHON
SESSIONS SINCE STRIKE ANNOUNCED (REFTEL). PARTIES HAVE ALSO
MET WITH GOI OFFICIALS, INCLUDING PRIME MINISTER.

2. ON FEBRUARY 10, MEDIATOR PRESENTED WAGE PROPOSAL PRO-
VIDING BASICALLY FOR 16.5 PERCENT INCREMENTAL INCREASE FOR
LOW-INCOME BRACKETS AND 13.6 PERCENT HIKE FOR OTHER CATEGORIES.
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ADDITIONAL INCREASES WOULD BECOME EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 1, 1976

IF COST-OF-LIVING INDEX PASSED CERTAIN LEVEL. UNIONS SAID THIS WAS STEP IN RIGHT DIRECTION BUT INSUFFICIENT IN ITSELF. DISCUSSIONS ARE CONTINUING. PARTICIPANT IN NEGOTIATIONS TOLD EMBOFF AFTERNOON FEBRUARY 13 THAT SITUATION COULD BEST BE DESCRIBED AS "UNCERTAIN."

3. MEANWHILE, SEPARATE STRIKE BY FISHING BOAT CREWMEN IS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN AT MIDNIGHT TONIGHT WITH NO SIGNS THAT IT WILL BE AVERTED. THERE IS GENERAL FEELING THAT IF SEAMEN'S STRIKE IS NOT ENDED BY FEB 16 MIDNIGHT, IT MIGHT GENERATE SYMPATHY GENERAL STRIKE BY IFL AFFILIATES EVEN IF SATISFACTORY SETTLEMENT IS REACHED BY LATTER ON THEIR DISPUTE.
IRVING

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